## BOOK REVIEW

Kevin Williams. 2007. **Seed to Elegance: Kentia Palms of Norfolk Island, South Pacific.** (ISBN 978-0-9775121-1-9, pbk.). First published by Studio Monarch, Norfolk Island, 2899, South Pacific. (**Orders:** seedtoelegance@gmail.com, 1-248-885-9255). \$18.95, 72 pp., numerous color and b&w images, 7" × 9".

Seed to Elegance: Kentia Palms of Norfolk Island, South Pacific is divided into three sections that provide details on the origins, industry, and design of the kentia palm. The first section provides the reader with details on the history of the kentia palm from its discovery on Lord Howe Island to its arrival at various locations around the world. This species was initially thought to be a sign of wealth and was a much sought after plant that was used in decorating palaces and landscaping. The author then takes a closer look at the specific steps that are involved in the industry of harvesting, seed planting, exporting, and distribution. He provides the reader with a history of how the industry grew and has expanded today. The final section provides instructions on the proper care required by kentia palms.

The author used very easy to understand terms and used images from several centuries to specifically show the reader the visual history of this particular plant. This book was a very quick read that provides information concerning the history and dispersal of the kentia palm. It would be a good read for any naturalist or person that is eager to learn more about this particular species of palm.—Keri McNew, MS Biology, Programs Manager, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.